

## Summer Convention Report

The summer convention of 2018 in Dallas, TX will go down as one of the best meetings ever in the history of APPNA. This claim could easily be backed by the eye-popping numbers in every possible category of the meeting. Starting from the hotel selection, Anatole Hilton is the best hotel where APPNA held its summer convention. Hotels lay out with glamorous structure and numerous amenities, antique painting, sculptors & water park made it one of the best hotels around the world. The preparation of summer convention for 2018 started during the middle of 2017. This early start placed us in a great position to prepare for an extraordinary convention.

The first thing to open for 2018 convention was reservation of booths for APPNA bazaar. Within first couple of hours 60% of the booths were sold out & all the booths were gone before the start of the year 2018. We also got couple of platinum and a gold sponsor to secure our financial position.

This financial stability helped us to keep the ticket prices at a reasonable rate & also not to mark up the hotel prices.

The convention registration started at end of March and all the hotel rooms and banquet tickets were sold out before spring meeting. This enthusiasm from membership was very encouraging and uplifting.

The convention started with a bang with maximum attendance on opening night where excellent dinner was followed by entertainment by Pakistan's top rising star Nabeel Shaukat Ali. Thursday alliance night set the standard of the convention with maximum attendance of more than 3,000 people. First time in the history of APPNA alliance night had a sit-down dinner due to the huge attendance. The Pakistani heart throb, king of entertainment Atif Aslam was the performer & probably the attraction for the huge attendance.

Friday was a packed day with social forum, fabulous fashion show, alumni dinner and entertainment by Mika Singh.

Saturday had several I class reunions, afternoon with Zia Mohiuddin, advocacy committee meeting, women forum gathering, heart healthy & obesity walks just to name the few.

CME conducted one of the best educational programs with outstanding lectures, abstract competition and workshops in pain, dermatology and ACLS. All the CME lectures were very well attended and appreciated by the membership, as depicted in evaluation forms.

The most unique event during summer convention was youth participation. This was the only meeting where more than 400 youths participated and there were several activities to engage the youth. There was a chess championship, basketball tournament, talent show, Islamic lecture, motivational speakers, career development guidance's, debate competition, DJ & entertainment by Mika Singh.

Dallas Summer host committee along with APPNA president Iqbal Zafar Hamid, alliance president Hanadi Tariq, Entertainment chair Dr. Aftab Ahmed, media chair Dr. Akhtar Hamidi, CME chair Dr. Mustafa Hussain, Resa Chair Dr. Saqib Masroor, APPNA Secretary, Dr. Sohail Khan, APPNA treasurer Dr. Lubna Naeem, APPNA past president Dr. Sajid Chaudhary, APPNA president elect Dr. Naseem Shekhani, APPNA meeting coordinator Tipu Ahmed, APPNA IT Coordinator Laiq Siddiqi, Mushaira chair Dr. Salman Zafar, Fashion show in charge Farah Haider, Chapter night coordinator Dr. Mohammad Amir, youth coordinator Zeeshan Hafeez, Dr. Salim Afridi, babysitting in charge Dr. Riffat Qureshi, and my better half Dr. Mehmooda Nasir were instrumental and helpful in every step of the way to make this convention a great success both financially & for enjoyment.

It was a lot of work but it was fun to organize a historic convention. The summer convention of 2018 was one of the most attended, most profitable, most fun meeting ever in the history of APPNA shattering all the previous records by miles.

This all happened due to memberships participation and enthusiasm.

Respectfully,

Dawood Nasir, MD